

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Maureen Teresa O'CONNOR et al.

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: DRY PHYSICAL SEPARATION OF PARTICULATE MATERIAL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TO LESSEN FEES

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

3. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the oscillation means comprises a variable speed motor driving an out of balance flywheel.

4. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the oscillation means comprises means for imparting a plurality of non-parallel linear motions.

5. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3 wherein the oscillation means further comprises means for imparting a linear motion at an angle to the axis of the non-linear oscillatory motion.

6. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the separating surface is mounted on a base which is mounted on or supported by springs.

8. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein one or more of the frequency of the non-linear oscillatory motion, the amplitude of the non-linear oscillatory motion and the angle of inclination of the separating surface are variable.

9. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the separating surface is inclined at an angle of 1-20°.

11. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the apparatus has a plurality of separating surfaces arranged for use in series.

REMARKS

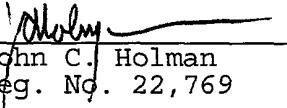
The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is requested in order to delete the multiple dependent claims and avoid paying the multiple dependent claims fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Atty. Docket: P63371US1  
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

3. [An] The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 [or claim 2] wherein the oscillation means comprises a variable speed motor driving an out of balance flywheel.

4. [An] The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 [or claim 2] wherein the oscillation means comprises means for imparting a plurality of non-parallel linear motions.

5. [An] The apparatus as claimed in claim 3 [or claim 4] wherein the oscillation means further comprises means for imparting a linear motion at an angle to the axis of the non-linear oscillatory motion.

6. [An] The apparatus as claimed in [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1 wherein the separating surface is mounted on a base which is mounted on or supported by springs.

8. [An] The apparatus as claimed in [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1 wherein one or more of the frequency of the non-linear oscillatory motion, the amplitude of the non-linear oscillatory motion and the angle of inclination of the separating surface are variable.

9. [An] The apparatus as claimed in [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1 wherein the separating surface is inclined at an angle of 1-20°.

11. [An] The apparatus as claimed in [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1 wherein the apparatus has a plurality of separating surfaces arranged for use in series.